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STATINTL

THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE OPERATIONS HAS VOTED THIS

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MORNING TO TURN OVER THE TRANSCRIPTS OF ITS HEARINGS AND OTHER RELATED DOCUMENTS ON THE CIA'S PURPORTED INVOLVEMENT IN THE PENTAGON PAPERS AND WATERGATE AFFAIR TO THE SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES.

IN SO DOING, WE ARE ASKING THE SELECT COMMITTEE TO FURNISH OUR SUBCOMMITTEE WITH ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE CIA. THE SUBCOMMITTEE WILL CONTINUE ITS OWN INQUIRY, THROUGH REGULARLY SCHEDULED BUDGET HEARINGS, TO DETERMINE WHETHER THERE IS A NEED TO AMEND THE NATIONAL SECURITY ACT, OR THE RULES, REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES UNDER WHICH THE AGENCY OPERATES.

THE SUBCOMMITTEE HAS HEARD ALL OF THE WITNESSES WHO WERE ABLE TO APPEAR AT THIS TIME, AND IT HAS COMPILED A RECORD WHICH RAISES SERIOUS QUESTIONS ABOUT WHITE HOUSE INVOLVEMENT WITH THE CIA BOTH PRIOR AND SUBSEQUENT TO THE WATERGATE BREAKIN. THE SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES IS THE MOST APPROPRIATE FORUM TO RESOLVE THESE QUESTIONS AND TAKE FURTHER TESTIMONY IF NECESSARY.

A POLITICALLY INDEPENDENT INTELLIGENCE AGENCY IS VITAL TO A FREE SOCIETY, AND THIS SUBCOMMITTEE -- AND THE CONGRESS -- WILL CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS TO INSURE THAT SUCH INDEPENDENCE IS MAINTAINED AND SAFEGUARDED.